Appl. No. 10/711,362 Amdt. dated 9/6/06

Reply to Office action of 06/06/06

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 6 (canceled).

7 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1, An apparatus for discharging dry bulk material by aeration comprising

a substantially annular flexible aeration liner; the aeration liner comprising

a semi-circular top panel;

a semi-circular bottom panel; and

a webbing strip for joining the top panel and bottom panel; coaxially disposed upon

a substantially frustro-conical perforated hopper, which is affixed to an air disc assembly;

whereby air introduced into the air disc assembly is distributed evenly through the perforated hopper that supports the aeration liner that tends to fluidize dry bulk material, thereby allowing the material to discharge.

8 (original): The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said panels are made of four-ply polyester woven fabric and the webbing strip is made of one selected from the group consisting of polyester and nylon.

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9 (canceled).

10 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1, An apparatus for discharging dry bulk material by aeration comprising

a substantially annular flexible aeration liner , the aeration liner comprising

a roped edge located at a perimeter flange area; coaxially disposed upon

a substantially frustro-conical perforated hopper, which is affixed to

an air disc assembly;

whereby air introduced into the air disc assembly is distributed evenly through the perforated hopper that supports the aeration liner that tends to fluidize dry bulk material, thereby allowing the material to discharge.

11 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 10, the aeration liner comprising a plurality of equally spaced scallop cut openings along the perimeter flange area for facilitating removal and replacement of the liner.

12 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 10, the air disc assembly comprising

a dished head:

an access port opening formed into the dished head;

an air stub for attaching a source of air attached to the dished head; and an outlet opening at the center of the dished head.

13 (original): The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising

an outlet collar attached to the dished head and surrounding the outlet

opening; and

an outlet flange attached to the outlet collar.

14 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the air disc

assembly is welded to the perforated hopper, thereby forming an air

compartment between the air disc dished head and the perforated hopper that

diffuses air equally.

15 (canceled).

16 (original): The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising a rotary valve

assembly in communication with the outlet opening for controlling the discharge

of dry bulk material.

17 (original): The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising a silo hopper

adapted to be secured to the air disc assembly by bolts on a bolt ring on the

perimeter flange such that the aeration liner roped edge is outside the perimeter

flange.

18 (original): The apparatus of claim 17, the aeration liner comprising a plurality

of equally spaced scallop cut openings along a perimeter flange area matching

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the bolt locations so that the liner can be removed by loosening the bolts and not removing the bolts.

19 (original): The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising an entry tube and an exit tube, each tube being in communication with the rotary valve assembly.

20 (original): An apparatus for discharging dry bulk material by aeration comprising

a substantially annular flexible aeration liner having a roped edge on a liner perimeter flange and a plurality of scallop cut openings along the perimeter flange; the liner coaxially disposed upon

a substantially frustro-conical perforated hopper, which is welded to an air disc assembly;

whereby air introduced into the air disc assembly is distributed evenly through the perforated hopper that supports the aeration liner that tends to fluidize dry bulk material, thereby allowing the material to discharge.

21 - 22 (canceled).